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action for effecting silt clearance of the channel at State cost as a special case and to prepare an estimate for the work.

"(c) No, Sir. The Villupuram Municipality and the Southern Railways are not liable to repair the channel."

Suspension of the Coonoor Municipal Council.

* 399 Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state the reasons for the suspension of the Coonoor Municipality?

THE HON. SRI K. RAJARAM:—"The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the notification appended to G.O. No. 1709, L.A., dated 12th August 1953, which states the reasons for the supersession of the Coonoor Municipal Council for two years, a copy of which was placed on the table of this House on the 14th December 1953."

SRI N. K. PALANISAMI:—"காங்கிரஸ்காரர்கள் மெஜாரிட்டி இல்லை என்ற காரணத்தால் அந்த முனிசிபாலிட்டி கலைக்கப்பட்டதா ?"

THE HON. SRI K. RAJARAM:—"The municipality itself agreed to the supersession."

(Sri A. Ramasamy Tevar was seen raising hand.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"நீங்கள் பேசாமல் நில்லுங்கள், போதும். கையை அப்படியும் இப்படியும் தூக்கிக் காண்பிக்கவேண்டாம்."

SRI A. RAMASAMY TEVAR:—"Thank you for your compliment, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is no compliment. (Laughter.) Let the hon. Member put the question."

SRI A. RAMASAMY TEVAR:—"May I know from the Hon. Minister for Local Administration whether, in view of the fact that most of the Municipal Commissioners are administering municipalities in a haphazard manner thinking themselves pinchback 'Mussolinis', the Government will consider the feasibility of superseding all municipalities chiefly to let all the Commissioners scot-free to carry on the administration?"

THE HON. SRI K. RAJARAM:—"Whenever the Government find that any municipal council is not able to carry on its business, that municipal council will be superseded."

SRI N. K. PALANISAMI:—"அங்கிருந்து ஜனங்கள் சார்பாக தூது கோஷ்டி வந்ததா ? அப்படி வந்திருந்தால் அங்கே இருக்கக்கூடியவர்கள் அங்கு முனிசிபாலிட்டியை ஏற்படுத்தவேண்டும் என்று சொல்வதாகச் சொன்ஞர்களா ? அதன்படி என்ன நடவடிக்கைகள் அரசாங்கம் எடுத்திருக்கிறது ?"

THE HON. SRI K. RAJARAM:—"No, Sir. I am not aware of any such thing."

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Sri S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" Sir, I must confess that there are some of us who have not gone through the Government Order referred to by the Hon. Minister. May I know what are the reasons for the supersession of these municipalities? "

The Hon. Sri K. RAJARAM :—" The newly elected Coonoor Municipal Council came into office on 1st November 1952. Sri K. I. Varghese was elected as its Chairman on 20th November 1952. Within a month of his election numerous petitions from councilliors containing allegations against him were received by Government. An enquiry into the allegations from councillors containing allegations against him rival groups and was torn by bitter faction, resulting in one party trying to undo the work of the other, and that the Council was unable to transact any business. Both the Regional Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards, Western Range, and the Inspector, after personal inspection, recommended the supersession of the municipality for two years. In G.O. No. 1557, L.A., dated 17th July 1953, the Coonoor Municipal Council was called upon under section 41 (1-A) of the District Municipalities Act, 1920, to show cause within a month why it should not be superseded for a period of two years for the reasons stated therein. The municipal council in its resolution No. 854, dated 29th July 1953, agreed to the supersession for two years. In other words it had admitted the charges levelled against it, in the Government Order, dated 29th July 1953. The municipal council was therefore superseded for two years from 26th August 1953 as it had become incompetent to perform the duties imposed on it by law."

Sri M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, inasmuch as the condition inside the municipality was a projection of the conditions outside, may I know what proposals the Government have to set right the conditions outside the municipality? "

The Hon. Sri K. RAJARAM :—" It all depends upon local politics."

Sri M. PALANIYANDI :—" அந்த கௌன்ஸிலிலுள்ள மைனாரிட்டியார் அந்த முனிசிபாலிட்டி நடவடிக்கைகள் நடக்கமுடியாமல் தடுத்ததா? அப்படி தடுத்ததினால்தான் அதை கலைக்கப்பட்டதா? அதேமாதிரியாக எல்லா ஜில்லாக்களிலும் அப்படி தடுப்பதற்கு இடம் கொடுக்கவில்லையா அரசாங்க நடவடிக்கை? "

The Hon. Sri K. RAJARAM :—" It is not at all possible. A minority cannot obstruct the proceedings of the House."

Hostels for Harijans.

* 400 *Q.*—Sri A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Animal Husbandry be pleased to state— 9-50 a.m.

(*a*) how many hostels for Harijans were opened by the Government in the State this year (1953–54);

(*b*) the names of the places and the names of the hostels districtwar and the number of students (boys and girls) maintained in them;